

Moscow expels 3 Iranian diplomats

LONDON (R) — Three Iranian diplomats working in Moscow have been expelled by the Soviet authorities. Tehran Radio reported Wednesday. Relations between Moscow and Tehran are currently at their lowest level since the Iranian revolution following the expulsion of a group of Soviet diplomats from Iran last month and a clampdown against Iran's Tudeh (Communist) Party. On Tuesday the Soviet daily Pravda accused the Iranian authorities of using medieval torture methods of extract confessions from arrested Tudeh leaders. Wednesday's Tehran Radio report, monitored in London, said the Soviet government had expelled "three of our committed, Muslim brothers who are members of the embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Moscow."

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جوردن تايمز مطبوعة يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Hassan off to U.K.

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan left for London Wednesday for a short visit to the United Kingdom.

OIC condemns S. African raid

BAHRAIN (R) — The Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) said Wednesday South Africa's attack on the Mozambican capital Maputo on Monday was "an aggression resembling Israel's actions in occupied Arab and Palestinian lands." In a statement issued in Jeddah and carried by the Saudi Press Agency, OIC Secretary-General Habib Chatti urged the major powers to shoulder their responsibilities towards what he called the serious threat to peace posed by South Africa.

Shamir to visit Brussels next week

BRUSSELS (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir will visit Brussels next Wednesday to try to improve his country's relations with the European Economic Community. Israeli officials said Wednesday. Last June the 10-nation community, angered by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, indefinitely suspended the signing of a financial protocol with Israel and cancelled a twice-yearly meeting on a 1975 cooperation accord.

Lebanon seeks death sentence for 17

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's military prosecutor sought death sentences Wednesday for 17 Muslim fundamentalists accused of attacking Lebanese troops last March. Prison terms ranging from six months to three years were requested for 58 other people alleged to have been involved in the attacks. The most notable incident in the case was when fundamentalists attacked a Lebanese army convoy on March 4, killing an officer and wounding five men.

Lagos denies entry to Libyan delegation

LAGOS (R) — Nigeria has refused entry to an official Libyan delegation carrying a message from Muammar Qadhafi to President Shehu Shagari because they had no visas. Foreign Minister Ishaya Adu said Wednesday. He told a press conference the Libyan delegation arrived at Lagos airport Tuesday unannounced and with no visas. "They spent the night sitting in chairs at the airport, then got back in their plane and left," he said.

UAE lauds Bangladesh, India

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) said Wednesday it appreciated the stands of Bangladesh and India on the 33-month-old Iran-Iraq war and their attitude towards the Middle East crisis. The Emirates News Agency said UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid Abdullah Al Nuaimi conveyed the appreciation during separate talks with Bangladesh Foreign Affairs Minister A.R. Shams-Ud Doha and Indian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Abu Baker Abdul Rahim.

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U.S. says Saudis have limited influence

WASHINGTON (R) — Saudi Arabia is a key factor in the Middle East but it cannot force Syria to accept the Israeli-Lebanese withdrawal agreement, a senior State Department official said Tuesday.

EEC urges total pullout from Lebanon

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Economic Community called for a withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon Wednesday and supported efforts by Lebanese President Amin Gemayel's to restore his country's sovereignty.

West German Foreign Minister

Hans-Dietrich Genscher, in his capacity as current community president, described the May 17 Lebanon agreement with Israel as a step towards the withdrawal of foreign troops.

The agreement calls for a withdrawal of Israeli forces which

invaded Lebanon last year.

Mr. Genscher said the community fully supported efforts to achieve a complete withdrawal of all foreign troops which were not in Lebanon at the request of its government.

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HOME NEWS

An empathic eye brings Akuz's photography alive

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — It takes quite a while to realise exactly why one likes, in a very positive kind of way, the photographic work of Osman Akuz now on show at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel. It's not because they are technically good for they are not composed or lit any better than many of the prints exhibited by other photographers, both amateur and professional, already this year in Amman. It can not be the subject matter — flo-

wers, landscapes, sunsets, bedouins, animals — for they are certainly not new either.

Then gradually as Akuz's images continue to play on your mind, it begins to dawn on you why his work is different and so appealing. It is because Akuz makes you realise there was a person behind the lens that took these pictures, a person who really liked his subjects, felt for them, laughed with them. In place of the cool dispassionate eye that sees everything in terms of whether it would make a good photograph or

not there was an eye who liked what it saw for what it was, not because it reflected the light well or was caught off guard. Because Akuz really felt for the old man who could not afford the delicious looking chickens as they turned, cooked and sizzled temptingly behind the plate glass, you felt for him too, and because of this the photograph appeals on a deeper level than if it was just admiring it for its spontaneity, its off-centre composition and the contrast it captures of ragged coat with the smooth gleam of glass and the

brown shine of the glistening chicken skin.

Akuz's empathy with his subjects runs through his whole work, unifying the collection, although in some prints it is more obviously

niche carved in the living warmth of the red rock.

Akuz has also caught some very atmospheric skies, but the best of his landscapes must be his 'Wadi Rum', which is a subtle study of opposites. The rough red solidity of the mountains contrasts with the delicate transparency of the wafer thin moon, whose pale disc rises fragilely in the impenetrable blue triangle of the clear sky.

One or two of Akuz's flower studies also work well, particularly the more linear ones like "Infinite" and "Smooth" which seem

to thrust upwards with an inner dynamism, but the most successful is 'Fall'. Here Akuz has caught the essence of autumn, not as felt here in Jordan but of a more temperate climate. The bare branches of the stark trees are reflected in a pool of water in whose depths lie layer upon layer of golden leaves, this latter creating a three dimensional effect that is particularly striking.

Very few of the 48 prints fail to make the grade — one or two not working because they are rather traditional shots saying nothing

very new (Akuz seems to have realised this as he has entitled one 'Classical Istanbul') and a few others because they have not been printed very well. These do not however detract from the fact that the rest of the collection were taken with life about life in all its moments of humour, sadness, deprivation, beauty and joy by someone who so obviously loves it all.

Prices range from JD 11 to JD 60. The exhibition is open until May 26.

'PLO not planning to withdraw'

(Continued from page 1)

these appointments as "a reward for cowardice".

Mr. Shakour explained that after the war in Lebanon a military committee was set up to investigate these charges as well as to study the whole military situation during the war. "The committee will submit a report of its findings to the Higher Military Council in Fatah which is expected to give its final verdict on the matter," he said.

Mr. Shakour severely criticised the way the rebels opted to express their protest over the appointments and stressed that it is a matter restricted to the Higher Military Council. "There are many channels through which they could voice their objections. Instead they chose to surpass the organisational framework of Fatah and fall in the laps of an Arab regime which in itself constitutes a dangerous precedent," he said.

The appointments, however, were not the only issues protested by the rebels. In a statement issued earlier this week, they waged a full scale attack on the Fatah leadership's policies and political moves. The dissidents accused the leadership of "squandering money on festivals and meetings that have no purpose." The statement also charged the leaders of "plunging us in to a vortex of peace plans" and strongly condemned meetings with "Zionists" and recent contacts with Egypt. Leaders of the rebellion were quoted as saying that their movement not a "revisionist" but aims at the correction of "the deviation" practised by the Fatah leadership.

Mr. Shakour reiterated the Fatah leadership's commitment to resolutions adopted at the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers last February. "We shall not accept any settlement that infringes upon the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, inc-

luding their right to establishing an independent Palestinian state," he said. Furthermore, Mr. Shakour said, "the PLO is the ally of Lebanese progressive movement and will abide by any decision by the movement. Therefore PLO forces will not withdraw from the Bekaa unless they are asked by the Lebanese national movement. And if the decision of the Lebanese progressives was to fight, the PLO forces will fight on their side," Mr. Shakour said.

Fatah, Mr. Shakour pointed out, has always witnessed "differences among its political wings but not 'disagreements.' These differences should be resolved through democratic dialogue and not mutiny," he said.

Since its inception in 1965, Fatah or the Palestine National Liberation Movement did not claim the adoption of a definite political ideology; thus accepting Palestinians from all wings of the political spectrum. Mr. Shakour,

however, strongly refuted claims that recent events in the Bekaa reflect a polarisation of "the left" and "the right" with the movement.

"The rebellion in the Bekaa should not be perceived as an ideological conflict between a left-wing and a right-wing within Fatah," he said. "A conflict between the independence of the Palestinian resolution and the attempts by certain Arab regimes to patronise and contain the Palestinian decision constitute the essence of what is going on in the Bekaa," Mr. Shakour said.

The rebels violated the values and principles embodied in the independence of Fatah and consequently the Palestinian decision, he said.

Mr. Shakour said that even if Mr. Arafat decided to reinstate "the rebels" to Fatah ranks, many Fatah members, including himself will oppose that vehemently.

On the military side, he ap-

Opposition accuses government

(Continued from page 1)

Musa, had been deceived by Libya into turning against the Fatah leadership.

Arafat aides in Damascus said they were confident the revolt was being stemmed. They said that of 200 men who defected with Col. Wasef Ureigat (Abu Raad) from southern Syria, 150 had returned to the mainstream line.

The rebels were said to be gripped because Mr. Arafat, as Palestinian commander-in-chief, had promoted officers deemed by the rebels to have performed badly during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last year.

Rebel demands

The rebel officers also indicated they wanted the leadership of Fatah and the PLO to shun President Reagan's Middle East peace plan and to pledge to keep Palestinian fighters in Lebanon

where they could attack Israel.

Mr. Arafat had previously given vague indications that he would pull his men out of Lebanon if Syria did the same.

Syrian refusal to do so is preventing Lebanon and Israel from implementing an agreement, signed in southern Lebanon and Beirut, WAFA said.

Also discussed were "the activities of joint forces behind enemy lines and the need to increase these actions," it added.

This was apparently a reference to attacks on Israeli forces by groups believed to be either Palestinians or their leftist Lebanese allies.

The Nicosia-based news agency said such a group had attacked an Israeli patrol with automatic weapons Wednesday near Shweifat, south of Beirut, killing or wounding a number of Israelis.

Three Israelis were wounded in a separate attack Wednesday afternoon on an Israeli patrol in the Aqibiyah area of southern Lebanon, the agency reported.

Arafat imposes blockade on rebels

(Continued from page 1)

that the document lists scores of crimes committed by settlers which went uninvestigated or in which the perpetrators were not apprehended.

The government is refusing to release the report to the Knesset committee, saying it contains the names of suspects who might be harmed without being given the opportunity to defend themselves.

Ms. Aloni's faction Wednesday published a list of 60 crimes committed by settlers.

The list includes five cases in which Arab youths were shot and killed by Israeli settlers: On March 27, 1982, in the village of Halhoul, on March 29, 1982, in the village of Beni Naim, on March 30, 1982, near the Israeli settlement of Shilo, on May 25, 1982, in the village of 'Ain Al Arroub and on Oct. 6, 1982, in the town of Nablus.

danger that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement represents to the area as a whole and the means to confront it.

The committee took measures to confront "repression and terrorism" against Palestinian refugees in southern Lebanon and Beirut, WAFA said.

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HEADLINES

Tunis talks open on stimulating trade amongst Islamic states

TUNIS (Petra) — Jordan is taking part in the three-day conference on reactivating trade among Islamic nations which opened in Tunis Wednesday.

Among other things the conference will discuss their trading links, research in economic affairs and the organisation of training courses and trade exhibitions to benefit Islamic nations.

egations at the conference.

The conference is organised by the Islamic Centre for the Promotion of Trade which has 43 members from within the Islamic World. The Casablanca-based centre was established in 1981 at a meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) at Mecca, Saudi Arabia.

The conference is a good opportunity for businessmen from the participating countries to have direct contacts with one another on trade matters, Mr. Al Bawab said.

In addition to Jordan, which is represented by Abdul Latif Al Bawab from the Jordanian embassy here, there are 11 other delegations.

Conference to tackle sanitation problems

AMMAN (J.T.) — A national conference on drinking water and sanitation will be opened by Minister of Health Dr. Zuhair Malhas at the Yarmouk University Liaison Office Monday. The conference, organised by the Ministry of Health in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO), aims to lay the ground for a general strategy on water and sanitation in Jordan, according to Dr. Suleiman Qub'ain, director of health welfare at the Ministry of Health.

The conference will discuss a wide spectrum of subjects connected with the supply of drinking water from now until the end of 1990, and ways of protecting citizens from infectious diseases that are caused by polluted water, such as typhoid, cholera, hepatitis, polio and dysentery, Dr. Qub'ain said.

He told the Jordan Times that health specialists from Jordan, the Arab Health Council and WHO will discuss the proper means of establishing sewer networks and installing sanitary facilities that should secure a healthy and clean environment.

The participants will also focus their attention on water supply problems in general and will issue recommendations on the causes of water pollution in line with the WHO guidelines and objectives, Dr. Qub'ain added.

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Martyrs' Monument display commemorates Independence, Army Day

King leads celebration of twin anniversaries

AMMAN (Petra) — A celebration was held Wednesday at the Martyrs' Monument in Amman under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein to mark the anniversary of Independence and Army Day.

At the outset of the celebration there was a 21-gun salute and the King inspected a guard of honour while the army brass band played the national anthem.

Later King Hussein watered the "Tree of Life" and decorated veteran officers of the armed forces and security departments of various ranks with medals in recognition of their efforts and services.

King Hussein, who was accompanied by His Highness Prince Mohammad and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, later received good wishes on the occasion from Prime Minister Mudar Badran, cabinet members and senior officials as well as members of the diplomatic corps in Amman and key public figures.

Those attending included Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Tarawneh, National Consultative Council Speaker Suleiman Arar, the Royal

Stamps mark airport opening

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Communications has issued a special postage stamp to commemorate the inauguration of the Queen Alia International Airport Wednesday.

The stamp, bearing a picture of the airport and a photo of His Majesty King Hussein, went into circulation Wednesday May 25, 1983.

Science day set for June 3

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Neurologists Association will hold its first "science day" at the University of Jordan Hospital on June 3, according to Dr. Ashraf Al Kurdi, the association president.

He said that this event will be the first such activity held by the association which was established in April 1983.

Nearly 13 Jordanian neu-



His Majesty King Hussein waters the "Tree of Life" at the Martyrs' Monument during the celebration of the anniversary of Independence and Army Day (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

rologists will give lectures on the treatment of and surgery on the nervous system and related topics. Dr. Kurdi said.

The association also plans to establish a national centre to specialise in the treatment of the nervous system to serve Jordan and other Arab countries and to conduct scientific research in this field, Dr. Kurdi said.

Also on the occasion, Prime Minister Badran held a luncheon

Non licensed shops closed

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh ordered the closure of 80 stores, clinics and business offices in Amman, according to a report in the local press Wednesday.

It said that the owners of these places have failed to obtain licences to operate or have failed to renew them after the date of expiry.

ministers, cabinet members, armed forces commander-in-chief, the Islamic chief justice, presidents of trade unions, heads of religious denominations in Jordan, heads of diplomatic missions, senior army officers, senior officials and representatives of the business and industrial sectors in the country.

Aquatics team open festival

AQABA (J.T.) — The tenth annual water ski festival opened in Aqaba Wednesday to coincide with Jordan's Independence and Army Day.

According to the director of the Special Programmes Department Mir Khouri, the famous Cypress Gardens Show from Florida, USA are to give a daily performances lasting an hour and a half throughout the five-day festival.

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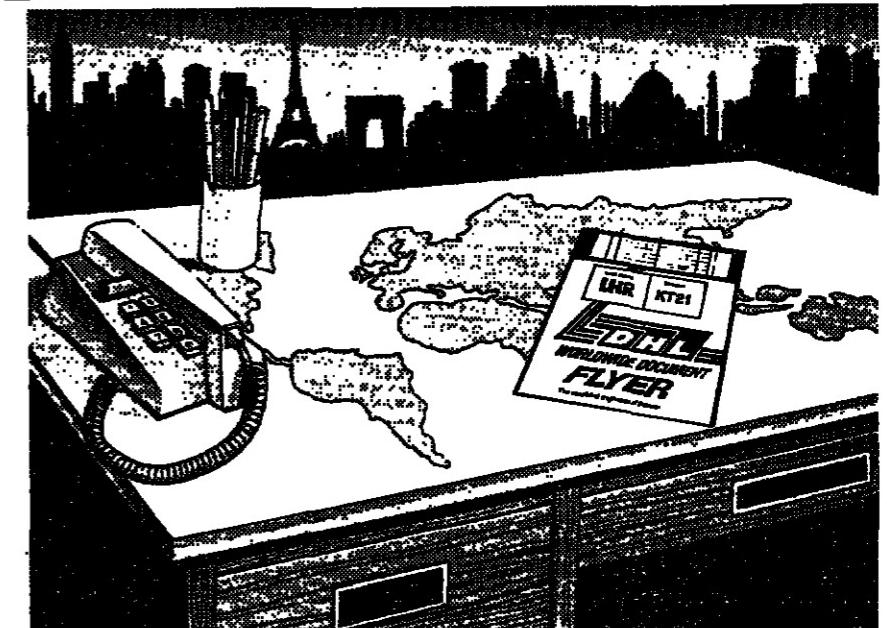
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Where to with Lebanon?

THE observation of a journalist who recently saw the Arabs split into three different camps over the Lebanese-Israeli withdrawal is, more or less, accurate. Indeed, there are three main arguments in the Arab World today concerning the accord.

The first, that of the Syrians and the Libyans, says that the agreement is a "sell out" and "another Camp David". The second, held mainly by Egypt, hails the deal as an accomplishment and wants it implemented as quickly as possible. And there is the third argument, which is not clear at all but nevertheless one that is held by the rest of the Arab World; this third Arab bloc, presumably led by Saudi Arabia and possibly including Jordan and Iraq, would like to see the agreement implemented although not at all cost and despite the fact that not all of its provisions are satisfactory to the Arabs.

One way out of the dilemma would be to convince Syria that it cannot be more Lebanese than the Lebanese themselves and to respect Lebanon's wish for a Syrian withdrawal, providing that Syria's security is assured. Admittedly, all other possibilities are hard to imagine.

It seems that Saudi Arabia is the only Arab force that can move the Syrians from their present "rejectionist" stance. And although the Saudis have been ruling out pressure on Syria to lessen its opposition to the agreement, they seem to be trying quiet diplomacy with the Syrians towards this end.

The success of these Saudi attempts depends on a number of factors connected with the Arab situation and international balance in general; and in this regard there will be many things to be said and done before the final outcome on the Lebanese problem can be known.

Until something happens, the Arab masses in "hardline" and "moderate" Arab states alike will once again be left to wait and guess what their leaders will decide.

For now, however, these masses remain confused, and, more than all others, bewildered by Arab politics: do we really need a split in Arab ranks to save Lebanon?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Jordan celebrates with pride

ON the anniversary of Independence and Army Day, the Jordanian national family takes pride in its unity and freedom in the strength of its armed forces under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein. It is a day that reminds every Jordanian of his national duty valuing independence, unity and cohesion. These values have enabled the Jordanians to build with hope for the future and to achieve the present stability and security that the country now enjoys.

At the same time this united family takes pride in its armed forces—the shield which protects and ensures Jordan's independence. The Jordanian armed forces have become exemplary among Arab armies and a source of pride to the Jordanian people, not only due to their might and discipline but also because of their heroic stands in defence of the Arab Nation. Therefore, both Independence and Army Day go together as national occasions because they underline the meaning of unity and cohesion between people and army and between the leadership and the nation as a whole.

Al Dustour: A cherished anniversary

INDEPENDENCE and Army Day is the most cherished anniversary for Jordan and the Jordanian people because it is the chief source of national pride to all citizens. One needs more than mere words to express the deep feelings of our people in the country's independence and its armed forces—the shield protecting this independence. This anniversary comes at a time when Jordan is shouldering the heavy commitment of defending the Arab Nation, and continuing its endeavours to regain the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

No doubt the profound confidence of the Jordanian people in their wise leadership and its armed forces has been instrumental in maintaining the country's stability and security, and also in helping to achieve prosperity and progress. This anniversary finds us more determined than ever before to pursue the goal of achieving even greater progress and of confronting the challenges that our country now faces.

Sawt Al Shaab: May 25 epitomises pride

JORDAN's celebrations of Independence and Army Day embody the very meaning of pride to all our citizens in belonging to the united Jordanian family and a country that is led by His Majesty King Hussein. These celebrations carry the meaning of cohesion among the Jordanian people, their aspirations for the future and their commitment to pursue the struggle for the defence of the whole Arab Nation so that we can all live in peace and freedom.

Independence should remind us to be grateful for the sacrifices of our forefathers and the pioneers who led the struggle to bring about freedom for our country, while this anniversary also carries Jordanian's feelings of appreciation and gratitude to King Hussein who has been leading this country over the past 30 years towards further progress and prosperity. King Hussein has been honouring the commitments, laid down by his great grandfather Sharif Hussein Ibn Ali who led the Great Arab Revolt, to achieve freedom and unity for the Arab Nation. The armed forces, the country's shield, are indebted to King Hussein who has been working relentlessly to supply it with the most up-to-date weaponry and equipment and improving its standards to become an example for all Arab armed forces.

Bekaa Valley seems calm despite trumpet of war

By Alan Philips
Reuters

SHTOURA, Lebanon — Despite talk of war, Lebanon's Bekaa Valley has a strangely calm atmosphere and the Syrian and Israeli armies seem to be good neighbours, at least for the moment.

Tens of thousands of Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian forces are entrenched in the red earth of the flat-bottomed valley, which runs between the snow-peaked mountains of the Syrian border and the central Lebanese highlands.

Israel has agreed to pull its troops out of Lebanon as long as the Syrians also withdraw. But Dam-

ascus has refused to accept the terms of a Lebanon-Israeli accord signed under U.S. auspices this month.

In some places a mere 100 metres separates the Syrian T-72 tanks from Israeli armour across no-man's land. Both sides have a bird's eye view of the enemy from their mountain slopes, virtually ruling out any surprise moves.

Some guns visible from main roads still have their covers on, and neither side is mentioning any firing — apparently both are still keen to keep the situation under control.

The front line winds for about 30 kilometres through the lush farmland and stone-built villages, just south of the tattered town of

Shtoura on the Beirut-Damascus highway.

On the Syrian side of the line, the towns are thronged with Syrian commandos in striking red and green camouflage.

Soviet-built military vehicles ply back and forth along the road to Damascus in a steady stream.

Fields which once grew vegetables are packed with dug-in Syrian tanks, artillery and trucks. In every orchard, Palestinian commandos seem to be lounging in the shade of the ripening cherries.

But Syrian forces are reported to have banned commandos from raiding Israeli front-line positions for fear of Israeli retaliation.

A Syrian soldier at the last checkpoint behind the front line told

two reporters asking to see Palestinian commandos:

"You won't find any commandos up ahead. We don't allow them to come any further than this."

In the bomb scarred main street of Shtoura, Syrian soldiers seem intent only on foraging for food or stocking up on consumer goods — rare in Socialist Syria — to take home on leave.

Brightly-dressed Lebanese girls stroll hand in hand down the pot-holed roads in the afternoon.

The Lebanese seem to be taking it all in their stride.

"It's been like this for the past eight years," said a local hotelier, referring to the 1975-76 civil war which ended when Syrian troops

entered to keep the peace. "We are used to it."

Though his hotel is empty he is still hoping Syrian and Israeli troops will withdraw by the summer in time to catch some of the tourists who used to flock there.

An Israeli plane flies high overhead on a routine reconnaissance mission, not drawing any fire. "At least they are not bombing us — yet," he shrugs.

For the time being, both sides are only waging a war of words, reminiscent of the Bekaa missile crisis of 1981 when Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin vowed to destroy Syrian surface-to-air missiles in the valley.

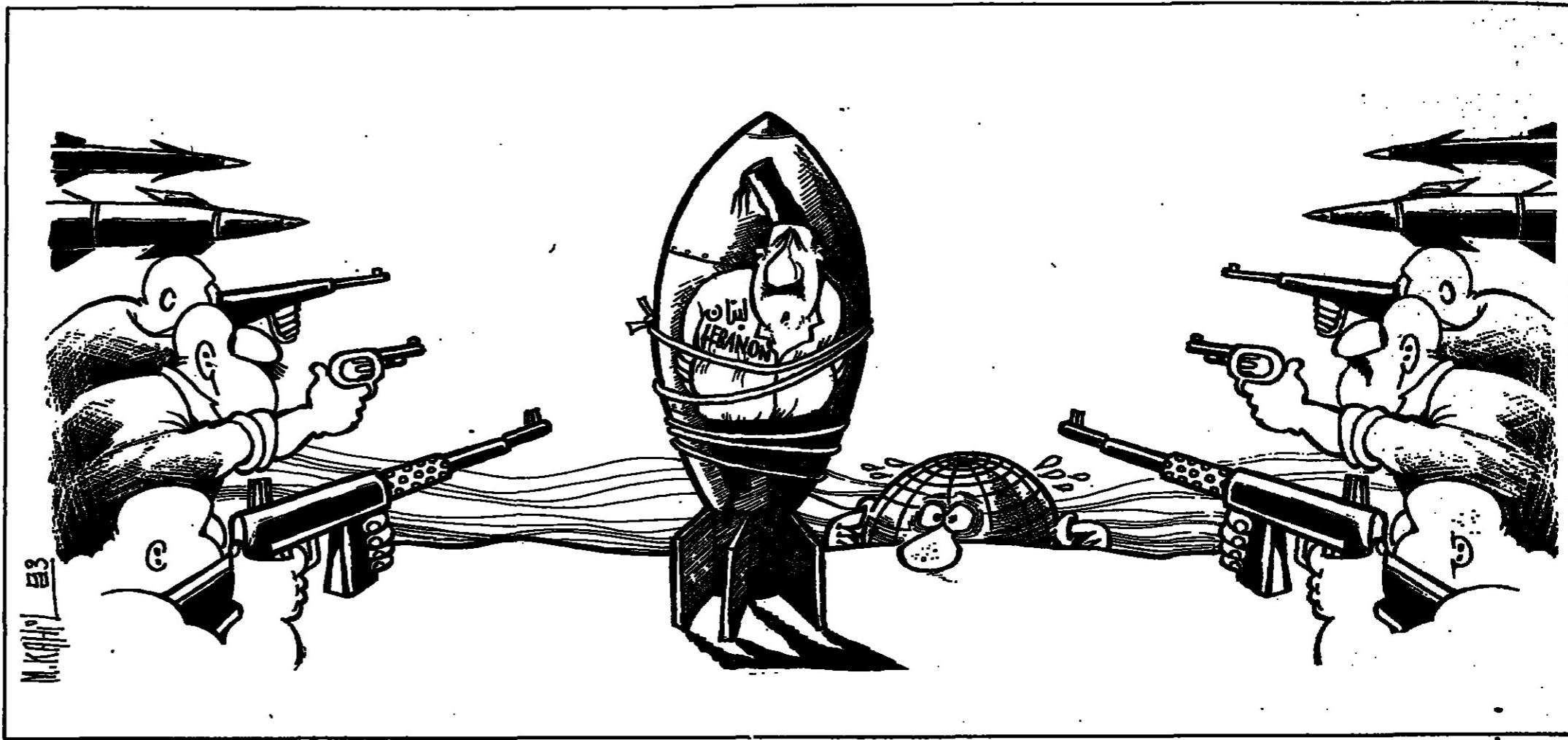
He did not carry out his threat until last year's Israeli invasion of

Lebanon.

Diplomats in Beirut generally discount predictions of full-scale war, saying both sides have too much to lose. But many do not rule out an outbreak of fighting saying anything could happen.

It is hard to judge the balance of forces in the valley. Syria is estimated to have upwards of 40,000 men in north and east Lebanon, while Israel is said to have around 25,000 men in the southern third of the country.

Beirut newspapers have reported almost daily reinforcements by both sides, and the French-language *L'Orient-Le Jour* said last week that the area was rapidly reaching "saturation point."



IRA front more active in politics

By Ed Blanche
Associated Press

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — Gerry Adams, the man the British claim masterminds the IRA's guerrilla campaign, was haggling over the telephone with a housing official to repair the homes of jobless Roman Catholics in West Belfast.

It was a bizarre scene. But it symbolised the new public face of Sinn Fein, the provisional Irish Republican Army's political arm, long regarded as little more than a cover for the guerrillas fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

"Sinn Fein and the IRA have the same objectives," he said. "Sinn Fein not only defends the armed struggle and the IRA's right to wage it, but also has the task of popularising support for it."

"There is no other way by which

the British can be forced to withdraw from this country except by a struggle that involves both (political and military) strands of republicanism."

The soft-spoken Adams maintained in an interview that the two branches of the almost exclusively Catholic movement "will make it impossible for the British to govern and they will leave dismantling the whole colonial system."

The IRA is fighting to reunite Protestant-dominated Northern Ireland with the overwhelmingly Catholic Irish Republic to end nearly 62 years of partition. Ulster's million-strong pro-British majority fiercely opposes re-

unification.

In his first floor office in Sinn Fein's headquarters, walls covered in IRA posters, Adams said: "Political victories for Sinn Fein will give the lie to British claims there is no nationalist support for the republican cause."

Adams has been building up Sinn Fein's power base among the province's 500,000 Catholics since he took over leadership in Belfast six years ago and swung the movement sharply to the left, away from the IRA's traditional right-wing position.

But the breakthrough did not come until 1981 when convicted guerrillas in Belfast's Maze prison launched a hunger strike demanding political prisoner status.

When Frank Maguire, the nationalist member of the British parliament for Fermanagh-South Tyrone died suddenly, Adams swiftly put up Bobby Sands the hunger strike leader.

Rival Catholic candidates including Maguire's brother were pressured into backing out and Sands easily won. A month later he died in the Maze.

Nine other "bitter" followed Sands to Martyrs' Graves and angry Catholics swung behind Sinn Fein.

Last October, Adams and other Sinn Fein leaders won seats in the 78-member provincial assembly in a major upset by taking one-third of Catholic vote cast. They refuse to attend the assembly and say they will not take their seats in the London parliament if elected.

Now they're out bury the Social Democratic and Labour Party, the moderate voice of Catholic nationalism for the past 12 years, and seize the political leadership of the Catholic minority.

But security officials and sources close to the IRA expect that once the election is over, the guerrillas' sectarian headhunting of members of the predominantly Protestant police force and Ulster Defence Regiment will go on.

The IRA considers these "legitimate targets."

The new mood galvanizing Sinn Fein is epitomised by the movement's headquarters in Belfast's falls road, a tilting ground in Northern Ireland's 11 years of sectarian bloodshed.

Last year, it was a ramshackle building, its doorways cocooned to keep out bombs. Now, the outside wall sport a huge mural showing black-clad guerrillas with armalite rifles and a 10-foot-high (3-metre) reproduction of the

be identified.

Adams, stressing that he does not speak for IRA, said he opposed sectarian killings and civilian casualties. "I don't believe that killing Protestants or bombing that kill civilians have any part to play in the political struggle. Now-combatants should not be singled out as targets," he said.

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The new mood galvanizing Sinn Fein is epitomised by the movement's headquarters in Belfast's falls road, a tilting ground in Northern Ireland's 11 years of sectarian bloodshed.

Every day a small army of unpaid volunteers, mostly ex-convicts and jobless youngsters, fan out through West Belfast plastering walls with election posters.

Others dragoon working-class Catholics who haven't voted for years to register on election roles with the efficiency of veteran campaigners, alarming the battle-weary, middle class SDLP.

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Population a contentious issue on both sides of the world

China: Birth control is a duty under amended constitution

By Nuray Fincancioğlu

Chinese citizens have become the first in the world to have a constitutional duty to practise family planning.

This fact emerges from a study of the new constitution approved in December 1982 by the National People's Congress. This refers to birth control as a fundamental duty of the Chinese people and may provide the basis for a family planning law which would make it easier to enforce compliance.

The context of this significant development is Article 49 which also offers protection for marriage, the family, mothers and children and prohibits the maltreatment of old people or the violation of the freedom to marry.

The article appears in the section of the constitution which deals with the fundamental rights and duties of citizens. It also prescribes the reciprocal duties of parents and children; of parents to rear and educate their children; of children who have come of age to support and assist their parents.

There is a further reference to family planning in the section of the Constitution devoted to gen-

eral principles. This explains that the state is promoting family planning in order to achieve population growth in balance with economic and social development plans.

It is five years since the Chinese constitution first gave a commitment to encourage birth control and three since the Marriage Law (1980) was enacted making it a duty to practise birth control. The way is now open for a more explicit family planning law.

When the Marriage Law was enacted a draft family planning bill was prepared but the National People's Congress decided to postpone it, probably because its measures were controversial.

Reports from China say a new family planning bill is already in preparation following the recent population census, which showed that if present trends continue the Chinese are unlikely to stabilise their population at 1.2 billion by the end of the century as officials had hoped. A National Family Planning Committee report carried by all the national newspapers in January warned that if couples continued to have two children instead of one, the population

would not stop growing until it reached 1.8 billion, in the year 2025.

There had already been a similar warning from the alternative secretary of the central committee of the Chinese Communist Party, Hao Jianxiu, who said that second births must be strictly controlled and late marriage encouraged.

Measures to postpone parenthood and limit most couples to one child are likely to be the main provisions of any family planning law. Many provinces have already raised their penalties for "unauthorised" second children. In Shanxi Province, for instance, parents who have a second child may have their joint salaries cut by 20 per cent and may lose maternity leave privileges and social security benefits.

There are also indications that majority groups may lose their exemption from birth planning policies. Until recently, 55 minority groups were exempt from rules about family size but since July 1982 couples belonging to the Li and Miao ethnic minorities have been restricted to four children and this figure may soon be reduced to three or even two.

While it tries to strengthen its one-child policy, the Chinese government also has the difficult task of preventing one of the policy's consequences, given the strong preference for sons among the Chinese.

A growing number of cases of female infanticide is being reported from various parts of the country. Recent official figures show that in Gaudong province alone there were at least 210 infanticides in the first 10 months of 1982 although the government has launched a campaign against this and against the mal-treatment of women who give birth to female babies.

In addition to the ethical problems associated with the practice, there is concern about the long-term social effects it might have. One recent study suggests that by the year 2010 China will have 169 males of marriageable age for every 100 females.

That it might be hard to change the Chinese attitude to sons was borne out by a recent letter to the Chinese Communist Party's newspaper People's Daily. Fifteen women wrote to say they would rather die than give up the chance



One child per family is China's prescription for population stability

of having a baby boy. The population control programme is doomed to fail as long as men are considered superior to women. People's Daily commented.

- People News Features

Nuray Fincancioğlu is head of Policy Analysis at the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

Randa Habib's Column

Listen, for a change

Being a good listener is a quality that is becoming rare. It is a well known fact that most of the people prefer talking to listening. Very few are those who really listen to you when you're talking. This is why such an attitude can create ambiguous and funny situations.

It is well known that during cocktails and social parties the attention is very shallow. People are mainly interested in looking around and seeing who talks with whom and what are people wearing. People answer evasively when someone tries to talk to them. Unfortunately this can create situations which are morbidly funny.

During a cocktail party I was witness to a conversation between a serious gentleman and a young lady whose father had passed away three months ago. The gentleman who had recently heard the news was enquiring very politely about the circumstances of the death. The young lady explained to him that her father who had heart problems died from a severe heart attack, and the gentleman very seriously answered "Salamou. I hope he'll be better soon".

Or this other story that I heard but cannot guarantee its truthfulness: A gentleman meets another and asks about his family - "I have lost my son", he said; "he died five months ago".

But what happened", asks the afflicted man.

"Everything started with a simple flu ..." answered the unhappy father.

But the second man interrupted him saying: "If it is a flu then it must not be serious."

Italy: Campaign's success worries economists

By Stuart Harris

Reuter

ROME — A 28-year battle against the law, the church and tradition to promote birth control in Catholic Italy finally seems to be paying off for Luigi de Marchi, founder of the country's Planned Parenthood Association.

Recent figures show only 600,000 children were born in 1982, after a peak of one million in 1964. Italy's birth rate is now among the lowest in the industrialised world.

Mr. de Marchi, a social psychologist and writer, directs his birth control campaign from modest offices a short bus ride from the Vatican, where Pope John Paul has maintained the church's total opposition to contraception.

After founding the planned parenthood association in 1955, Mr. de Marchi fought 15 charges for breaking Fascist-era laws ban-

ning birth control. Finally he won their abolition by the supreme court in 1971, opening the way for contraceptive sales.

The association's advertising methods include popular "photo novels" in which famous actors solve everyday problems through birth control, saying: "once people made little love and a lot of children. We young people want few children and a lot of love."

"People usually sing out Third World countries are being dangerous hotbeds of overpopulation, but we should look closer to home. Europe's population crisis is now making itself felt," Mr. de Marchi told Reuters in an interview.

"Italy has an average of 194 people per square kilometre, against 85 in China and seven in Brazil. And even this is nothing when you compare our use of resources," he said.

An average Italian consumes

and pollutes about 50 times as much as an average Indian, so Italy's population of 57 million has the same effect as 2.5 billion Indians would have, Mr. de Marchi said.

"The population of Europe grew beyond its resources 200 to 300 years ago. We had to look abroad for cheap raw materials and later cheap energy, to feed the manufacturing industries which kept people in work."

"When space became cramped, we fought wars. Mussolini's African adventures and Hitler's *Lebensraum* push east were both intended to find room to live," he said.

"But we no longer fight wars in Europe, the great European emigration is over and the European Community is now the most densely populated part of the world outside Java and southern Japan," Mr. de Marchi said.

Italy's birth rate is lowest in the rich industrial north. In an ext-

reme case, the port city of Trieste has three deaths for every baby born.

The national population committee, which reports to parliament, says Italy is well behind other countries such as France and West Germany in providing family benefits.

Today's lower birth rate means there will be fewer workers to support more pensioners in the future, Il Mondo warns.

Now there are 44 pensioners for every 100 workers in the centre and north of Italy, but the number will rise to 51 pensioners by the year 2001 and to 68 by 2021, says Ornella Vitali, Professor of Economic Statistics at Rome University.

Mr. de Marchi said those ratios assumed people would continue to be forced into early retirement and that women would still be excluded from many types of work.

Opinion -- Al Ra'i

A question of standards

By Fahd Al Fanek

Jordanian industrialists complained during a recent seminar on industries that the specifications of Jordanian products are of too high a standard to be competitive with other commodities in the Gulf markets. They said Jordanian products should have a higher price than those produced in Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan or Korea due to their superior quality.

It was said that consumers and distributors in some countries prefer Japanese heaters with tin tanks to Jordanian ones with copper tanks, regardless of the fact that the tank of the first wears out in a year's time. It is only the cheaper price that makes the difference.

When the issue was raised by Prime Minister Badran at the seminar, I had a feeling that he was about to grant industry in Jordan the right to use different specifications for products made for export purposes. Protests against this idea

around the hall seem to have made him believe that there is a general tendency to cling to present high specifications of Jordanian products regardless of losses on a short-term basis, and due to estimates that quality will hopefully persuade consumers in foreign and Arab markets that it is better in the long run to seek a better product regardless of price.

I believe that export products should be subject to market considerations, and be made to specifications that suit the consumer and distributor requirements in the importing market.

There is a certain demand for high-quality, and consequently high-priced, commodities. There is also a different demand for low-priced commodities, which should certainly be at the expense of quality. It is the Jordanian exporter who should decide what kind of demand he means to satisfy. If the majority of im-

porters ask for certain specifications, it would be illogical to stick to undesirable production specifications simply because it is felt that they suit the consumer better. That should be left for the consumer himself to decide.

American, German or French products should not be the example to follow for Jordanian industries. Products of Taiwan, Korea, Philippines and Singapore, which have invaded the world markets, should be taken as a good example. If the Abu Dhabi distributor prefers not to have the "made in Jordan" label on our products, it remains his right, which we should take into account.

The Jordanian export industry ought to satisfy the needs of foreign markets, not impose their specifications or convictions on others. Businesses should concentrate on how to make financial and commercial profits, not to prove that they have ideals.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL
16:30 ... Korean
16:30 ... Cartoon
17:15 ... The Match Bunch
17:30 ... Name Anderson
18:30 ... Big Blue Marble
19:00 ... Local Programme
20:00 ... News in Arabic
20:30 ... Soccer: Manchester United v. Brighton
21:30 ... Arabic Play
22:00 ... News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL
18:00 ... French Programme
19:00 ... News in French
19:30 ... News in Hebrew
20:30 ... Maggie
21:15 ... The Foundation
22:00 ... News in English
22:15 ... Movie of the Week: "The UFO Incident"

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz AM & 99 MHz FM & party on 9560 KHz SW

07:15 ... Morning Show
10:00 ... News Summary
10:35 ... Pop Session
12:00 ... News Summary
12:45 ... Pop Session
13:15 ... News Summary
13:45 ... Movie of the Week: "The UFO Incident"

VOICE OF AMERICA
1250, 5065, 7200, 15205, 17275 KHz

1250 The Breakfast Show: News, Information, Presentation of Popular Music with Hosts, Readers, Interviews and Opportunity to Listen to Questions, Science Digest, News Summary at 30 minutes past the hour, 17:30 News 17:18 Magazine, Show 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 News 18:20 Radio News 18:30 News 19:00 News 19:10 Magazine Show 19:30 Special English News and Features

BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newswalk 06:30 International

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

FILMS

"The Shootist," starring John Wayne, at the American Centre Thursday at 4:00 p.m.

"La Tia Tula" (without subtitles) at the Spanish Cultural Centre Thursday at 4:30 p.m.

"La Femme Infidèle" at the French Cultural Centre Friday at 7:30 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

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British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37009
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44209
Spanish Culture Centre 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 66511
House of Youth City 66518
U.K. 15-45 Meridian's "Young 1980" Discovery 16-40 Paperback Choice 16-45 Racing 17-50 Radio Newsreel 17-55 Outlook from Chechenia 18-50 World News 18-55 Commentary 18-55 Assignment 18-45 The World Today 19-50 WorldNews 19-55 Meridian 19-55 The Week in Wales 19-45 Sports Round-up 20-50 News 20-55 World News 21-50 News 21-55 The Week in Wales 21-55 Financial News 22-45 Reflections 22-45 Sports Round-up 23-50 News 23-55 World News 24-50 News 24-55 World News 25-50 News 25-55 World News 26-50 News 26-55 World News 27-50 News 27-55 World News 28-50 News 28-55 World News 29-50 News 29-55 World News 30-50 News 30-55 World News 31-50 News 31-55 World News 32-50 News 32-55 World News 33-50 News 33-55 World News 34-50 News 34-55 World News 35-50 News 35-55 World News 36-50 News 36-55 World News 37-50 News 37-55 World News 38-50 News 38-55 World News 39-50 News 39-55 World News 40-50 News 40-55 World News 41-50 News 41-55 World News 42-50 News 42-55 World News 43-50 News 43-55 World News 44-50 News 44-55 World News 45-50 News 45-55 World News 46-50 News 46-55 World News 47-50 News 47-55 World News 48-50 News 48-55 World News 49-50 News 49-55 World News 50-50 News 50-55 World News 51-50 News 51-55 World News 52-50 News 52-55 World News 53-50 News 53-55 World News 54-50 News 54-55 World News 55-50 News 55-55 World News 56-50 News 56-55 World News 57-50 News 57-55 World News 58-50 News 58-55 World News 59-50 News 59-55 World News 60-50 News 60-55 World News 61-50 News 61-55 World News 62-50 News 62-55 World News 63-50 News 63-55 World News 64-50 News 64-55 World News 65-50 News 65-55 World News 66-50 News 66-55 World News 67-50 News 67-55 World News 68-50 News 68-55 World News 69-50 News 69-55 World News 70-50 News 70-55 World News 71-50 News 71-55 World News 72-50 News 72-55 World News 73-50 News 73-55 World News 74-50 News 74-55 World News 75-50 News 75-55 World News 76-50 News 76-55 World News 77-50 News 77-55 World News 78-50 News 78-55 World News 79-50 News 79-55 World News 80-50 News 80-55 World News 81-50 News 81-55 World News 82-50 News 82-55 World News 83-50 News 83-55 World News 84-50 News 84-55 World News 85-50 News 85-55 World News 86-50 News 86-55 World News 87-50 News 87-55 World News 88-50 News 88-55 World News 89-50 News 89-55 World News 90-50 News 90-55 World News 91-50 News 91-55 World News 92-50 News 92-55 World News 93-50 News 93-55 World News 94-50 News 94-55 World News 95-50 News 95-55 World News 96-50 News 96-55 World News 97-50 News 97-55 World News 98-50 News 98-55 World News 99-50 News 99-55 World News 100-50 News 100-55 World News 101-50 News 101-55 World News 102-50 News 102-55 World News 103-50 News 103-55 World News 104-50 News 104-55 World News 105-50 News 105-55 World News 106-50 News 106-55 World News 107-50 News 107-55 World News 108-50 News 108-55 World News 109-50 News 109-55 World News 110-50 News 110-55 World News 111-50 News 111-55 World News 112-50 News 112-55 World News 113-50 News 113-55 World News 114-50 News 114-55 World News 115-50 News 115-55 World News 116-50 News 116-55 World News 117-50 News 117-55 World News 118-50 News 118-55 World News 119-50 News 119-55 World News 120-50

SPORTS

McEnroe faces tough time to win 1st round in French Open

PARIS (R) — John McEnroe, the second seed, struggled against a shoulder injury, poor form and his volatile temperament to win a first round marathon against compatriot Ben Testerman in the French Open tennis championships Wednesday.

McEnroe took four-and-a-quarter hours to overcome Testerman, ranked 149th by the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP), eventually winning 3-6, 6-1, 6-2, 6-7, 6-2.

McEnroe's shoulder injury pre-

vented him from playing his usual serve and volley game and he was forced to contest most of the match from the baseline.

After dropping the first set, McEnroe moved up a gear to win the next two with the loss of only three games. But despite his superiority he still made many unforced errors and his frustration became more and more evident as he threw insults at linesmen, spectators and photographers.

In the first game of the fourth set his behaviour brought him a warning from the umpire. He was told off for banging balls against the back of the court.

In the next game the fiery New Yorker contested a call which went against him and asked for tournament referee Jacques Dorman. He came on court but refused to change the umpire's decision.

McEnroe went on to lose his service to fall 5-3 behind, and, with the crowd behind him, Testerman took the set on a tie-breaker. But McEnroe regained his cool sufficiently to avoid the embarrassment of a first round exit.

As McEnroe struggled on number one court, the women's second seed Chris Evert Lloyd, bidding for her fifth French Open title, looked in much better touch as she swept to a 6-1, 6-2 win over unseeded Pat Medrado of Brazil.

Lloyd, who was forced to pull out of two tournaments earlier this year because of a virus infection, said she felt good but needed more match practice.

"I have a tough road to the final," Lloyd added. "I'll have to get past Andrea Temesvari, Hana Mandlikova and Andrea Jaeger (all seeds)."

Soviet Union looks certain to retain basketball title

CAEN, France (R) — The Soviet Union are strongly fancied to retain the European men's basketball championship which opens here Thursday with preliminary round matches.

Their main challenge is likely to come from Yugoslavia, winners three times in the 1970s. They are relying on a batch of players experienced in European competition.

The defending champions should win the group "B" competition with some ease, and Czechoslovakia, third in the last championship, are expected to take second place. Poland could be their main challengers for the runners-up spot.

Brighton faces United without Ramsey today

LONDON (R) — Brighton fullback Chris Ramsey failed a fitness test Wednesday and will miss the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup final replay against Manchester United at Wembley Thursday.

He will be replaced by England defender Steve Foster, who returns after serving a one-match suspension, with Gerry Ryan substitute.

United will be unchanged for the replay—the third in three years—with 21-year-old Alan Davies retaining his place and Ashley Grimes again substitute.

Steve Gatting, who played in the heart of Brighton's defence in Saturday's 2-2 draw, will move across to take Ramsey's right-back position with Foster resuming his central partnership with Gary Stevens.

Gatting, 24, has never played in the position before. But manager Jimmy Melia said: "Steve won't let us down. I know he can do a workmanlike job for us."

Heroic Brighton return to the scene of their greatest ever achievement Thursday when they meet mighty Manchester United in the F.A. Cup final replay.

The little side with the big ambition go to Wembley for the second time in five days eager to improve the 2-2 draw they achieved at last Saturday's pulsating party.

But if United were so nearly the stooges on Saturday, Brighton could find the roles cruelly reversed Thursday night.

Manager Ron Atkinson will have drummed into his United side that the silverware should already be locked away in the Old Trafford trophy room by now. He will not want to see the merchandise slip away a second time.

GOREN BRIDGE

ANSWERS TO BRIDGE QUIZ

BY CHARLES GOREN

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Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦83 ♦K1063 ♠K92 ♣J982

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—We realize that your reverse as responder has created a situation which, in theory, is forcing. However,

the more the auction has progressed, the worse your hand has become. Partner surely has a hand with no more than three spades, a singleton heart and at least six clubs.

In view of the known misfit,

we would break a cardinal rule of bidding and pass! But we are ready to apologize to partner if we took the wrong decision.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦9874 ♦Q63 ♠K842 ♣KJ82

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

1 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—Partner's bid is not forcing, and you do not have much more than a minimum no trump response in terms of point count.

However, your kings are slightly undervalued and you do have some useful fillers. We would venture three no trump, and we would not be upset if partner chose to correct to four spades.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦K93 ♦K873 ♠AK62 ♣J82

Partner opens the bidding with one club. What do you respond?

A.—With 14 points in high cards and stoppers in the unbid suits, your hand qualifies for a jump to two no trump.

However, that would crowd the auction and you could easily miss a 4-4 heart fit—with your prime values a suit contract might be desirable.

We would respond one diamond to see if partner can introduce hearts. Should he fail to do so, you can always jump in no trump at your next turn.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦A1065 ♦AQ9843 ♠62 ♣5

What do you bid now?

A.—First, partner's bid does not show any great strength

—with a good hand, he would have started with a redouble.

He probably has nothing but a long diamond suit.

However, we don't need much more than that for a shot at game. Our choice would be between a jump to four diamonds and a leap to game.

Since partner may reject an invitation with a suitable hand, we would take our chances with five diamonds.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AJ1063 ♦795 ♠AK92 ♣KQ10

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

1 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A.—First, partner's bid does not show any great strength

—with a good hand, he would have started with a redouble.

He probably has nothing but a long diamond suit.

However, we don't need much more than that for a shot at game. Our choice would be between a jump to four diamonds and a leap to game.

Since partner may reject an invitation with a suitable hand, we would take our chances with five diamonds.

Q.6—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦KJ10986 ♦95 ♠74 ♣74 ♣AK2

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

What is your opening lead?

A.—You want to prevent declarer from scoring tricks

with his low trumps by means of ruffing. The way to do that is to draw trumps.

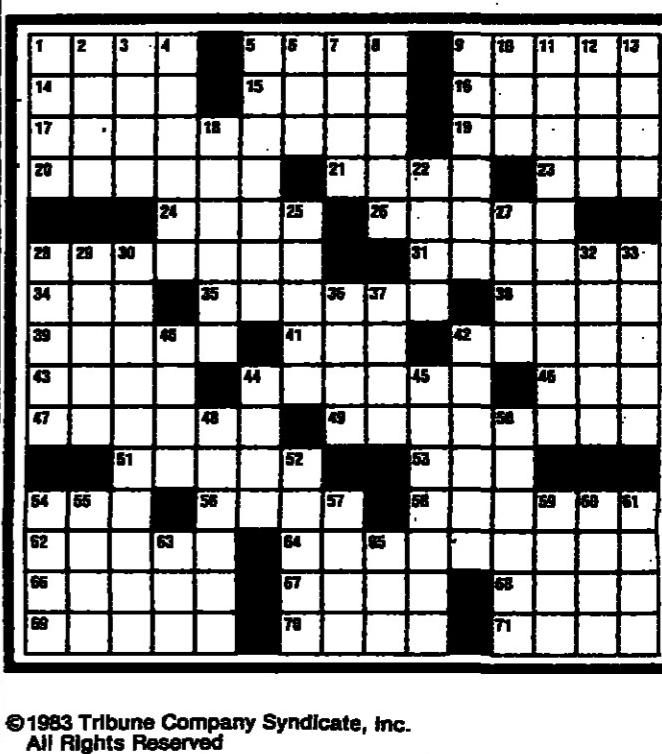
Start by leading the king, in case partner of dummy has the singleton queen. Don't worry about declarer having both missing honors—if he has them, he will score both no matter what you do.

THE Daily Crossword

by John Greenham

1 Links	24 Military school	49 Flattened dough anew	18 Sycophants
sport	letters	51 A Bailey	22 "I—Very Good Year"
5 Welshman	26 Paper	52 Hwy.	25 Pointer
9 Vests	28 Copper	54 Woffed	27 A Cantab.
14 Currency exchange	31 Uncrowded	55 Spinaker	28 Sharpened
fee	34 Article	56 Planter's	29 Rosinier
	35 Corrigenda	kin	30 Fictional
	38 bone	groups	31 Playmate
15 Gray, as H with age	39 Continued	32 Martin or Allen	32 Relaxed
16 Candlestick Park, e.g.	40 One kind	33 In the distance	33 Appropriate
	41 One kind	34 Sammyn and Danny	34 Redundant
17 No big deal	42 Sammy and	35 Piggy bank	35 Fictional pianist
18 Actress Jessica	43 Piggy bank	36 Tortoise shell	36 Martin or Allen
20 Sewing machine	44 House	37 Havens for wayfarers	37 Teal Michael's city
21 Goldie of films	46 Greeting	38 Welding a crowbar	38 Short trips
23 Numerals: abbr.	47 Welding a	39 Playing	40 Sadder
	48 crowbar	40 Revives	41 Sadder
		42 Arch type	42 Puddling complex
		43 Football	43 Football
		44 Handicraft	44 Handicraft
		45 Chinese club	45 First
		46 Enchanted	46 Victim
		47 Wood strip	47 GWTW
		48 Beat a path	48 Locality
		49 Tabby's weakness	49 Skinny
		50 Mouths: Lat.	50 Philippine native
		51 Mint plant	51 Supplicate
		52 Writin prof.	52 Lycrist
		53 Simon — (game)	53 Author
			54 Author

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:
 SIGHT SAILOR BASE
 WILLIE ADDITIVE ETAL
 TITAN STALEM WILLY
 GOICARTS RESOLVE PAIR
 DARTER WALKING STICK
 CIBILLE LIRAS ELL
 RIEIND PENAL PLEA
 DIAD MIRAH TABBED
 DURESSIS RAM
 ELASTIC HAROLDIS
 ANTEOL OLIPES TOLL
 LATIN MEARS ERMA
 THROD SHODDY REGT



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on
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and
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MARK O'CONNOR AND FRIENDS
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At the Royal Cultural Centre.

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Mon. June 6 — 8 p.m. — Evening Concert Programme.

Tickets: Family Concert — JD 2 — Adults
JD 1 — Students/children
Evening Concert JD 3 — Adults
JD 2 — Students/children

Tickets available at the Royal Cultural Centre
Tel: 661026

ENGLISCH

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nepal, Pakistan to boost cooperation

KATHMANDU (R) — Nepal and Pakistan signed an agreement establishing a joint economic commission following the arrival Tuesday of Pakistan President Mohammad Zia-Ul-Haq for a four-day state visit. The commission will meet at least once a year at ministerial level and will promote cooperation between the two countries in agriculture, industry, education, communications, science and technology, officials said.

Siberian gas field nears production

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union will soon begin producing gas from the Yamburg field in western Siberia, a report in the newspaper Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya indicated Wednesday. The report said the first development drilling had begun at the remote site 146 kilometres north of the Arctic circle. Yamburg is the northernmost of three fields in Tyumen Oblast, near the mouth of the Ob River, which together hold some of the world's biggest deposits of gas.

Zhao stresses trust with U.S.

PEKING (R) — Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang told U.S. Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige Wednesday that Washington and Peking should remove obstacles in their relations and build a foundation of mutual trust, the New China News Agency said. Mr. Baldrige arrived in Peking last Saturday to discuss exports of high technology equipment such as computers. China has expressed dissatisfaction at delays in granting of export licenses for these items.

Hong Kong dollar hits new low

HONG KONG (R) — The Hong Kong dollar fell to a new low of 7.19 to the U.S. dollar in early currency dealings Wednesday before steady at about 7.12. Dealers said concern about the future of the British colony was a major factor in the fall from Tuesday night's close of 7.1951. It had opened Tuesday at 6.9150 to the U.S. dollar. Share prices dropped Tuesday as the dollar fell and the Hang Seng index closed 25.03 points down at 77.68, its lowest for four months. The currency's decline prompted the Shell oil company to increase the price of almost all petroleum products from midnight Tuesday night. Other oil companies are expected to follow Shell.

Bonn promises to aid Turkey

ANKARA (R) — West Germany will give Turkey 130 million marks (\$52 million) in economic aid this year. West German Economy Minister Otto Lambsdorff said Tuesday. Mr. Lambsdorff also told a news conference that West Germany would continue to give aid in the future. Bonn allocated about 400 million marks (\$16 million) for Turkey last year, but this was released only two months ago.

N. Sea gas leak sealed

THE HAGUE (R) — A gas leak on a North Sea platform which began 10 days ago was sealed Wednesday, a spokesman for the owners, Placid International Oil Company said. About 30 people were evacuated from the platform, 25 miles off the Dutch naval base of Den Helder, on May 15 when an underwater leak began in one of its producing wells.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRABBLED WORD GAME
by Herri Arnold and Bob Lees
Unscramble these four Jumbles,
one letter to each square, to form
four ordinary words.

MERIN

MARRE

ZAHDR

BURPAT



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.
Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: DAILY LYING JIGGER PARITY
Answer: You wouldn't call that pretty stewardess this, would you? —A "PLANE" GIRL

EEC ministers discuss Spain, Portugal

BRUSSELS (R) — European Economic Community (EEC) agriculture ministers begin a two-day meeting here Wednesday to try to settle sharp differences over farm policy holding up negotiations on Spanish and Portuguese membership in the 11-nation bloc.

Diplomats are pessimistic that much progress will be made during the talks since the members are divided between the southern producing states, France, Italy and Greece, and the northern importing states, West Germany, Britain and the Netherlands.

The issues dividing the nations are trade in Mediterranean products—fruits, vegetables and olive oil—which Spain produces in huge quantities.

France, Italy and Greece are worried that Spanish membership will produce undue competition for their own farmers and so want

assurances of greater protection and higher prices.

The northern countries are keen to keep cost of produce from rising so their consumers do not have to pay the price of Spanish and Portuguese membership. They are concerned that farm spending is getting out of control.

Currently, Spain accounts for about half and 90 per cent of the community's imports of fruits and vegetables and member states are concerned that once it becomes a member it will greatly increase its production.

Spain is also the world's largest producer of olive oil. It consumes most of what it produces but this is partly due to protective measures there which forbid the import of all edible oils.

Accession to the community, expected around 1985, could lead

to a large drop in Spanish consumption of olive oil since inexpensive seed oils would become available. This would be accompanied by an increase in production as olive oil producers enjoy guaranteed prices in the community.

To forestall the expected surplus as well as the soaring cost of supporting such production, the European commission has proposed a 10-year transition period during which existing barriers to imports would remain in effect in Spain.

But the northern countries, especially Britain, are taking the opportunity to call for an overhaul of the guaranteed price system which they say leads to waste and fraud.

He had pressed for a repayment of up two-thirds of the two billion or so European Currency Units (about \$1.8 billion) Britain contributed to the 1983 budget.

Diplomats said the meeting meant no agreement on the British rebate was likely until the community decided, if only in outline, how to tackle its pressing financial problems.

French European Affairs Minister Andre Chardenet told reporters after Tuesday's meeting that British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym stood alone in pressing for an early agreement.

He said others did not share Mr. Pym's sense of urgency and did not see the need for agreement by next month's community summit conference in Stuttgart, as Britain has demanded.

The British foreign secretary returned to London Tuesday night to rejoin his Conservative Party's campaign to regain power in the June 9 general election against an opposition Labour Party hostile to Britain's membership of the community.

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Diplomats said the meeting meant no agreement on the British rebate was likely until the community decided, if only in outline, how to tackle its pressing financial problems.

Others in the 11-nation bloc insisted that a deal for Britain can only be worked out as part of the longer-term financial settlement, which is urgently needed next year to cover the cash shortfall produced by massive farm subsidies, diplomats said.

But there was good news for Britain from the community Tuesday.

Officials said it was to receive an extra 300 million European Currency Units (about \$270 million) as a further rebate on the 1982 budget.

Updated figures for the 1982 budget showed that Britain paid in more last year than estimated in the budget.

It would therefore receive this extra rebate under a so-called "risk-sharing" formula to ensure fairer distribution of the financial burden in the community, the officials said.

The community foreign ministers will meet again in Luxembourg on June 13 to discuss the long-term financial rescue plan.

The West German presidency hopes then in table compromise proposals which, if agreed, could be endorsed at Stuttgart summit on June 17, diplomats said.

OAPEC meets in Damascus

DAMASCUS (R) — Ministers from Arab oil-exporting countries met in Damascus Wednesday to discuss oil-related issues and one senior minister said "no one is cheating" on recent OPEC moves to tighten the glutted world crude market.

Officials from the 10-member Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) said one of the ministers' briefs would be to coordinate oil policy but it was unlikely any decisions on pricing or production would be taken.

The Kuwait-based OAPEC is responsible for several joint ventures among member states but leaves controversial issues to the 13-member OPEC (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) which includes major non-Arab exporters.

United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba told Reuters before the meeting began in a Damascus hotel that the oil market was "positive and firming."

"Everybody is respecting their quotas and official prices. There is no cheating," he said.

Asked if this applied to all members of OPEC including Iran, he replied "yes."

In March OPEC fixed a maximum output ceiling of 17 million barrels a day and trimmed its

"marker" price to \$29 a barrel to stem falling prices.

OAPEC officials said that during their one-day session the ministers were expected to approve a study on building a drydock in Algeria.

They would also discuss rules for an OAPEC judicial board to resolve disputes among members. The last ministerial meeting in Kuwait in November failed to approve the rules after a lengthy debate.

Oil ministers from Kuwait, Algeria, the UAE, Libya, Syria and Bahrain were present at the meeting.

Saudi Arabia was represented by the director of Petromin, Mr. Abdul Hadi Taher, who has ministerial rank and who chaired the meeting.

Iraq, Tunisia, and Qatar were represented by lower officials.

Egypt, suspended from OAPEC over its 1979 peace treaty with Israel, was not present.

OAPEC Secretary General Ali Attiga of Libya told a brief opening session that Arab states had been split for many years but OAPEC had always worked to resolve its differences.

U.S. deficit hits \$132b

WASHINGTON (R) — A budget shortfall of \$3.3 billion in April pushed the U.S. federal deficit to a record \$132.5 billion after only seven months of the financial year, the U.S. Treasury announced Tuesday.

The government usually registers a surplus in April because of a mid-month deadline for filing individual income tax returns.

Even in the 1974-75 recession, the government recorded a surplus in April.

1964 was the last year in which the government had a budget deficit in April.

The budget deficit for the whole of the last financial year was \$110.7 billion.

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The budget deficit for the whole of the last financial year was \$110.7 billion.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Government bonds ended a very firm day with gains of as much as 1 1/4 points at the longer end, dealers said. Equities rallied from mid-morning weakness to end mixed in quiet trade. At 1500 the F.T. index was up 1.7 at 701.5.

The bond market met good demand both from overseas and domestic investors, with sentiment buoyed by opinion poll evidence of continued electoral support for the ruling Conservatives and by the strength of sterling, dealers said.

Leading equities closed mixed, with index constituent boots a feature, up 26 at 237 following full year results. Gold firmed with the bullion price, while U.S. shares were firmer.

Among leaders, ICI and Glaxo fell 2p and 5p respectively, while Plessey was up 5p at 657 ahead of figures this week. Bats fell 4p to 561 on a chairman's statement and fears of heightened U.S. competition, while Dunlop shed 5p at 71.

Among takeover stocks, Thomas Tilling was 3p firmer at 226 and BTR down 4p at 434 following a circular from Tilling, while P and O fell 5p at 212 after 217. Banks gained between 4p and 7p, while insurer Phoenix fell 4p to 332 on interims.

Tate and Lyle gained 10p at 358 following interims. Oils were mixed, while firm newspapers, Associated and Fleet Holdings gained 12p and 2p respectively.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

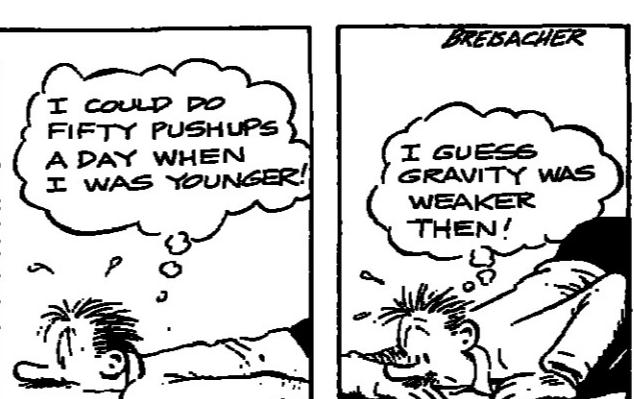
LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.5790/5.5001	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2313/16	Canadian dollars
	2.4871/91	West German marks
	2.7941/50	Dutch guilders
	2.0795/10/105	Swiss francs
	49.62/66	Belgian francs
	7.4710/30	French francs
	147.65/10/147.50	Italian lire
	235.81/95	Japanese yen
	7.5030/50	Swedish crowns
	7.1370/90	Norwegian crowns
	8.9145/70	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	437.50/438.25	U.S. dollars

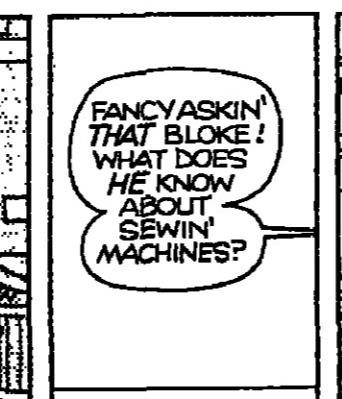
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MAY 27, 1983

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You are in a state of mind that could lead to a confrontation with an associate, but you would be wise to maintain a peaceful attitude. Make plans to have more abundance.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Use tact instead of forcefulness with others and accomplish a lot more. Discuss the future with financial experts.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't waste time with the wrong persons today. Go to the right source for valuable information you need.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A financial arrangement may be annoying in the morning but solve it wisely and make better plans for the future.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Take steps to improve your health and appearance, and then go after your most cherished desires.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) A secret worry should be forgotten now and later you can easily resolve the matter. Adopt a logical outlook on life.

WORLD

Pretoria denies raid only caused civilian casualties

PRETORIA (R) — South Africa and Mozambique have given sharply divergent accounts of the results of the South African air force's retaliatory raid into Mozambique on Monday.

Mozambique says six people were killed and 30 injured in the raid, while South Africa insists it killed 64 people in African National Congress (ANC) bases in retaliation for the explosion which killed 18 people here last Friday.

Western journalists in Maputo Tuesday said most of the casualties and damage appeared to be to Mozambican civilians and property with little connection with the war between the white minority government here and its African nationalist opponents.

But a South African military spokesman said it was "well-known terrorist tactics" to show photographs of dead children and to say innocent civilians had been killed.

"Scaling off the area ... hiding the bodies of terrorists and shooting dead civilians to sympathetic journalists have been standard propaganda ploys during every war in the last two decades, specifically here in Africa," he added.

Of the six listed dead by Mozambique officials, all were Mozambican except one man des-

cribed as a South African refugee. The others were three confectionery factory workers, including two women, a two-year-old boy and a six-year-old girl. Some 40 people, all said to be Mozambican, were reported wounded.

The United States, the Soviet Union and West European countries have strongly condemned the raid, but the South African ambassador to the United Nations, Kurt von Schirnding, told the Security Council that neighbouring states must accept the consequences if they sheltered anti-South African guerrillas.

"Those who harbour terrorists ... must understand that South Africa will not take this lying down," he said.

Contact group harried

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United States and four of its allies were expected to come under renewed pressure in the U.N. Security Council Wednesday to secure the long-awaited independence of Namibia (South Africa) from South Africa.

The so-called contact group, which also includes Britain, Canada, France and West Germany, has come in for repeated criticism in overseeing a pre-independence election.

Seoul sends hunger striker to hospital

SEOUL (R) — Plainclothes police Wednesday stormed the home of veteran South Korean politician Kim Young-Sam, who has been on hunger strike for a week, and forcibly took him to hospital.

About 20 men broke in and carried him away by force though he said he did not want to go." Kim's wife said by telephone from their home in southern Seoul. Police told her he was being taken to the Seoul National University Hospital.

U.S. woman astronaut ducks question about 'baby'

JOHNSON SPACE CENTRE, TEXAS (R) — America's first woman astronaut faced the press Tuesday but shied away from saying whether she might be pregnant when she goes into orbit next month.

Sally Ride, who recently married astronaut Steve Hawley, said "I'm not answering" when a woman reporter asked if she will be the first pregnant woman in space.

Mrs. Ride, a doctor of astrophysics, will be in the five-member crew for the second voyage of the space shuttle Challenger, due to blast off on June 18.

"Challenger really looks good and we're ready to fly," mission commander Robert Crippen, 45, said confidently. "As far as I'm concerned, we're ready to go now."

3 Singaporeans to be hanged for ritual deaths

SINGAPORE (R) — A self-styled exorcist, his wife and his mistress were sentenced to death by the Singapore high court Wednesday for the black magic-style sacrificial killings of two children.

At the end of the 41-day trial, the court rejected defence pleas of diminished responsibility for Adrián Lim, 41, his wife Tan Mui Choo, 28, and his mistress, Hoe Kah Hong, 27.

They were sentenced to hang for killing eight-year-old Agnes Ng Siew Hook and Ghazali Bin Marzuki, 10, in early 1981 in sacrificial rituals to a Hindu goddess.

Defence lawyers said they did not yet know if they would appeal.

The defense had earlier submitted that Lim and Tan had offered their victims to Kali in the hope of receiving divine favours.

Photos lead to arrest of 3 Peruvian Indians

LIMA (R) — Peru's state prosecutor said three Indian peasants had been arrested in connection with the murders of eight journalists in the Andes in January.

Miguel Cavero told reporters Tuesday that the three had been identified as part of a crowd of Indians who bludgeoned the journalists to death near the hamlet of Uchuracayo, in the Andean province of Ayacucho.

Photographs taken by one of the journalists before the axe and machete killings appeared to cast doubt on official versions of the killings, sources at the state prosecutor's office said.

A government-appointed commission had concluded that Quechua-speaking Indians had mistaken their victims for members of Maoist guerrillas. Hundreds of Indians are alleged to have been killed in Sendero Luminoso raids.

Interior Minister Luis Perovich said Monday that 1,111 people had been killed since political violence erupted in Peru's central Andes in 1980.

Mr. Cavero said his office would also investigate how a roll of film taken by one of the murdered journalists had reached a local mag-

azine which printed photographs from it Monday.

The magazine, Caretas, which handed over the roll showing pictures of the journalists' march to Uchuracayo, told the prosecutor's office that the film had been purchased from an unknown person.

Other rolls found near the site of the killing by police had also shown peasants tightening their circle around the doomed reporters.

The photographs seemed to indicate that the killings were carried out deliberately and had been premeditated, the sources said.

Ayacucho province had been the scene of bitter fighting between government forces and Maoist guerrillas. Hundreds of Indians are alleged to have been killed in Sendero Luminoso raids.

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U.S., Manila said close to pact on bases

MANILA (R) — The Philippines and the United States are close to concluding a new agreement on the American use of two huge military bases north of Manila, informed sources said Wednesday.

The aim of the debate is to win final implementation of a U.N.-endorsed independence plan that the contact group has been negotiating with Pretoria since 1978.

Many of the speakers have singled out the United States for special criticism for trying to make Namibian independence dependent on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from neighbouring Angola.

Denunciation of this "linkage" has been a common theme of speeches by representatives of such countries as Zambia, Kenya, Jamaica and Algeria.

The foreign ministers of both Cuba and Angola echoed this view when they addressed the Council Tuesday. But both also said that, once Namibia was independent and South African troops could no longer use it as a base to threaten Angola, the Cuban presence would be reviewed.

Despite that pressure for a settlement, South Africa told the Council Tuesday that the remaining obstacles were not of its making and questioned the impartiality of the world organization in overseeing a pre-independence election.

Informed sources said the Philippines is irritated by the terms of the military credits because they limit purchases to U.S. equipment, which is understandable, but often at rates higher than could be obtained elsewhere.

"It isn't unusual for the Philippines to pay a higher rate of interest for drawing from this sales credit fund than for loans borrowed from a U.S. commercial bank," one source said.

Also, they object to the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) insisting on monitoring how the economic support fund is spent.

Guinean coup leader's safety guaranteed

MADRID (R) — Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran returned to Madrid Wednesday after obtaining guarantees from Equatorial Guinea's government for an alleged leader of a failed coup who took refuge in the Spanish embassy there.

Mr. Moran flew to the former Spanish colony in West Africa Tuesday to meet President Teodoro Obiang Nguema two weeks after an abortive coup against his four-year rule.

Spain's charge d'affaires in Equatorial Guinea, Norberto Ferrer, told Spanish radio stations that Obiang and Moran had agreed that Sergeant Venciano Mico, 23, would be handed over to the Guinean authorities with guarantees that he would not be executed or tortured.

Mico's lawyers would be assisted by a Spanish attorney and embassy officials would have the right to visit him in jail and call in a doctor to check his physical condition, Mr. Ferrer added.

Interior Minister Luis Perovich said Monday that 1,111 people had been killed since political violence erupted in Peru's central Andes in 1980.

Mr. Cavero said his office would also investigate how a roll of film taken by one of the murdered journalists had reached a local mag-

French minister chased into embassy by mob

PARIS (R) — French Culture Minister Jack Lang Wednesday condemned student demonstrators as "fascists using Nazi methods" after an attack on his car during violent protests against university reforms Tuesday.

Police said they rescued Mr. Lang, who is also a university law professor, after he took refuge in the Upper Volta embassy from club-wielding students who ambushed him in the Latin quarter of Paris. He was unharmed but his character was injured.

Hundreds of demonstrators skirmished with riot police around the Sorbonne University until the early hours after a huge protest outside the national assembly Tuesday against the reforms.

The incidents coincided with the opening assembly debate on the Socialist government's reforms which are opposed by the centre-right opposition parties, students and many teachers.

Faced with at least 1,500 amendments to his bill, Education Minister Alain Savary decided Wednesday to invoke emergency procedures which will shorten the time available for discussion.

A ministry spokesman said this would ensure that the reforms became law by November and could be implemented the following autumn.

The government says it wants to

make the universities more responsive to the needs of the economy but opponents fear it will limit academic freedom and incite political control.

A flamboyant figure in the government and a close friend of President Francois Mitterrand, Mr. Lang said the attack on his limousine was carried out by demonstrators "who wanted to cause injury." The car was badly dented and its rear window smashed.

The minister took part in the 1968 student riots which shook the government of the late President Charles de Gaulle.

Mr. Lang said Wednesday:

"We would never have dreamed then of attacking a government minister. We respected people even amid a conflict of ideas."

Authorities in Paris said 131 police were injured by stone throwing demonstrators and that almost 80 youths were arrested. Almost all were later released.

Clashes also occurred in Bordeaux, where 500 students erected barricades, and in Montpellier, as well as in the capital. Eyewitnesses said, however, that security forces appeared to be keeping their intervention to a minimum in contrast with a confrontation in the Latin quarter two weeks ago when scores of police and demonstrators were injured.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prominent Greeks back Mercouri's claim

ATHENS (R) — Five prominent Greeks have backed Culture Minister Melina Mercouri's call for Britain to return the Parthenon marbles to Greece. Poet Odysseas Elytis and painter Nikos Tatsikyriakou-Ghika were among the signatories of a joint statement saying: "We hope and pray that the existing obstacles will soon be removed so that the marbles of the Parthenon are returned to the place where they belong." Theatrical directors Karolos Koon and Nikos Karides, and painter Yannis Moralis also signed the statement. Mercouri, a former film actress, is in Britain promoting the idea that the marbles should be returned from the British Museum in London.

Turkey sentences 35 Kurds to death

ANKARA (R) — A Turkish military court has sentenced 35 Kurds to death and 28 to life imprisonment for establishing a Kurdish nationalist movement, the semi-official Anatolian news agency said Wednesday. A further 331 people were sentenced to between three and 36 years in prison and 178 people were acquitted at the mass trial of members of the illegal Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) in the southeastern city of Diyarbakir.

3 jailed for robbing Saudi woman

LONDON (R) — Three Britons received long jail sentences for stealing jewels worth £2 million (\$3.1 million) from a wealthy Saudi Arabian woman. A jury at the Central Criminal Court convicted the men of robbing Sheikha Nora Al-Tahishi, 71, at her luxury flat in London last August. Stephen Love, 32, unemployed, was jailed for 18 years. Wayne Llewellyn, 22, and Ajayi Davies, 25, also unemployed, were jailed for 16 and 13 years respectively.

Swedish officer held for spying

STOCKHOLM (R) — Police Wednesday named a Swedish air force officer held on suspicion of trying to sell military secrets to the Polish embassy as Lt. Col. Bertil Stroberg, head of liaison for the air force staff in Stockholm. A foreign ministry spokesman said the Polish embassy contacted Swedish officials in April after Stroberg, 51, tried to sell details of military planning and installations, an offer the Poles regarded as a provocation.

British royals arrive in Sweden

STOCKHOLM (R) — Britain's Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip arrived by golden barge Wednesday at the start of a four-day state visit to Sweden. They were rowed by 18 oarsmen in a replica of the 18th century Swedish royal barge Vasaorden across Stockholm harbour to the national museum where Sweden's King Carl XVI Gustaf and his German-born companion with Queen Silvia welcomed them. Prime Minister Olof Palme and other members of the government and armed forces also greeted the British royal couple.

Craxi rules out possible coalition with communists

ROME (R) — Italy's socialists Wednesday ruled out the possibility of forming a coalition government with the communists after elections next month.

It ended weeks of speculation over the party's intentions since it forced elections last month by withdrawing support from the four-party coalition government of Amintore Fanfani.

The rejection came in an editorial in the party newspaper L'avanti, widely attributed to party leader Bettino Craxi.

Since the idea was first floated by party secretary Enrico Berlinguer last March the communists

have called on the socialists repeatedly to form a left-wing alliance to end domination of Italian politics by the Christian Democrats.

Mr. Craxi reacted coolly to Mr. Berlinguer's initial proposal but a meeting lasting several hours between the two leaders recently fuelled speculation that the two parties were moving closer together after years of tension.

Christian Democratic leaders have accused the socialists, who command about 10 per cent of the vote, of ambiguity and argued were misleading the Italian electorate.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

CATALOGUE

By William Canine

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